

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 MUSCAT 01657 220928Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 SS-15 SP-02 NSC-05
CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PRS-01 /063 W
-----080508 221325Z /50

R 220822Z NOV 77
FM AMEMBASSY MUSCAT
RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 3800
INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY DOHA
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MANAMA
AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO
AMEMBASSY RABAT
AMEMBASSY SANA
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
AMEMBASSY TUNIS
USINT BAGHDAD
USUN NEW YORK 90

S E C R E T MUSCAT 1657

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MPOL, XF
SUBJECT: SUPPORT FOR SADAT

REF STATE 276546
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 MUSCAT 01657 220928Z

1. SUMMARY: SULTAN QABOOS ON NOVEMBER 19 CABLED PRES. SADAT
A MESSAGE OF SUPPORT FOR WHATEVER STEPS HE FELT NECESSARY TOWARD
ESTABLISHMENT OF AN ARAB-ISRAEL PEACE. MESSAGE WAS MADE PUBLIC
IN OMAN THAT EVENING AND, WE UNDERSTAND, IN CAIRO AS WELL.
AMBASSADOR ON NOV 21 ASKED FOREIGN MINISTRY UNDERSECRETARY
INFORM THE SULTAN THAT USG WELCOMES AND COMMENDS THIS SOLID EX-

PRESSION OF OMAN'S SUPPORT FOR PRESIDENT SADAT'S INITIATIVE. END SUMMARY.

2. BY WAY OF BACKGROUND, AMBASSADOR AND ALL OTHER FOREIGN CHIEFS OF MISSION WERE GUESTS OF OMANGOV AT SALALAH FROM NOVEMBER 16-20 DURING CELEBRATIONS THERE OF OMAN'S SEVENTH NATIONAL DAY. KING HUSSEIN OF JORDAN WAS PRINCIPAL FOREIGN GUEST NOV 17-19, AND SINCE NOV 17 MUSCAT CAPITAL AREA HAS BEEN ALMOST ENTIRELY DEVOID OF SENIOR GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS. EVENING OF NOV 19, OMAN TV NEWS BROADCASTS REPORTED A MESSAGE THAT DAY FROM SULTAN QABOOS TO SADAT SUPPORTING HIS EFFORTS TOWARD A MIDDLE EAST PEACE. THIS CAME AS A SURPRISE TO ENTIRE DIPLOMATIC CORPS, AND AS A REAL SHOCK TO SOME, FOR IT HAD BEEN ASSUMED OMAN WOULD REFRAIN FROM GOING ON RECORD UNLESS SAUDI ARABIA AND PERHAPS JORDAN CAME OUT WITH SIMILAR EXPRESSIONS OF SUPPORT FOR SADAT ON EVE OF HIS TRIP TO ISRAEL.

3. ON RETURN FROM SALALAH AFTERNOON OF NOV. 20, AMBASSADOR BECAME AWARE OF REFTEL AND MANAGED SECURE APPOINTMENT FOR NEXT DAY AT HOME OF YUSUF AL-ALAWI, FONMIN UNDERSECRETARY, JUST BACK FROM SALALAH. IN OUR DISCUSSION, AL-ALAWI CONFIRMED SULTAN'S NOV. 19 MESSAGE OF SUPPORT, STATING IT HAD BEEN HANDED TO VP HUSNI MUBARAK BY OMANI AMBASSADOR IN CAIRO, AND HAD BEEN PUBLICIZED THERE BY MENA AS WELL AS INTERNALLY IN OMAN. AL-ALAWI SAID HE WAS UNCERTAIN WHETHER TEXT SPECIFICALLY MENTIONED SADAT'S TRIP TO ISRAEL, BUT THAT IT HAD BEEN SENT WHEN IT WAS BECAUSE SULTAN QABOOS FELT IT WAS VERY IMPORTANT TO SHOW THAT SADAT HAD GREATEST AMOUNT SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 MUSCAT 01657 220928Z

POSSIBLE OF ARAB SUPPORT AS HE LEFT FOR JERUSALEM.

4. ASKED IF OMAN HAD CONSULTED WITH OTHER ARAB COUNTRIES BEFORE THIS MESSAGE WAS SENT, AL-ALAWI SAID HE THOUGHT NOT, THOUGH IT WAS LOGICAL TO SUPPOSE THAT QABOOS AND HUSSEIN WOULD HAVE DISCUSSED THE SADAT TRIP SINCE AFTER ALL THEY HAD BEEN TOGETHER FREQUENTLY SINCE THE KING'S ARRIVAL IN SALALAH ON AFTERNOON OF NOV 17. AL-ALAWI SAID OMAN IS A BIT CONCERNED AT SAUDI REACTION TO ITS MESSAGE, SINCE SAUDI'S OWN STATEMENT, THOUGH EXTREMELY CONVOLUTED, SEEMED NEGATIVE.

5. I TOLD UNDERSECRETARY THAT MY PURPOSE IN BOTHERING HIM ON THIS FIRST DAY OF 'ID AL-FITR, FOR WHICH INTERRUPTION I APOLOGIZED, WAS TO CARRY OUT INSTRUCTIONS URGING OMAN'S PUBLIC BACKING FOR EGYPTIAN LEADER'S TRIP, BUT EVEN BEFORE COMING I HAD BEEN AWARE THAT OMAN HAD REGISTERED ITS SUPPORT LOUD AND CLEAR. I TOLD HIM WASHINGTON WELCOMED THIS ACTION VERY MUCH AND COMMENDED SULTAN'S FORTHRIGHT EXPRESSION OF SUPPORT FOR SADAT AT TIME OF THIS INITIATIVE WHICH WE VIEW AS WITHIN CONTEXT OF A RECONVENING OF GENEVA PEACE CONFERENCE. I ADDED THAT USG HAD BEEN BENDING EVERY EFFORT TO ASSURE THAT ISRAEL RESPONDS TO SADAT'S COURAGEOUS STEP WITH UNDERSTANDING AND

FLEXIBILITY. AL-ALAWI AGREED TO PASS MY COMMENTS ON TO THE SULTAN.

6. AL-ALAWI ASKED AMBASSADOR IF IT WAS USG WHICH INITIATED IDEA OF SADAT GOING TO ISRAEL, TO WHICH OUR REPLY WAS THAT THIS WAS A SADAT INITIATIVE TO WHICH USG IS GIVING ALL POSSIBLE SUPPORT.

7. IN CASUAL CONVERSATION NOV 19 IN SALALAH, HABIB BOURGUIBA JR. OF TUNISIA, WHO WAS REPRESENTING HIS COUNTRY AT OMAN'S CELEBRATIONS, EMPHASIZED TO AMBASSADOR THERE COULD BE NO BETTER TIME THAN NOW FOR USG TO EXERCISE ITS INFLUENCE ON ISRAEL. WITHOUT THIS, HE SAID, HE FORESAW THAT SADAT'S COURAGE COULD WELL LEAD TO DISASTER BECAUSE OF OTHER ARAB OPPOSITION.
WOLLE

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DIPLOMATIC REPRESENTATIONS, CHIEF OF STATE VISITS, PEACE TALKS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 22-Nov-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977MUSCAT01657
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770432-1034
Format: TEL
From: MUSCAT
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19771131/aaaababn.tel
Line Count: 128
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: ed892e14-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 STATE 276546
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 22-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 494607
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SUPPORT FOR SADAT
TAGS: MPOL, OVIP, XF, EG, IS, (SADAT, ANWAR)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/ed892e14-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009